TUNGABHADRA – THE SACRED RIVER

ganga snaana tunga paana…

There is a belief among the devout that taking bath in Ganga river and drinking water of Tunga (Tungabhadra) river will lead one towards Moksha maarga.

सभी नदी भक्तों ने स्वीकार किया है कि गंगा का स्नान और तुंगा का पान मनुष्य को मोक्ष के रास्ते ले जाता है। -

in a spiritual and symbolic sense:

Bathing in the Ganga River (Ganges) is believed to purify the body and soul of sins, leading to the path of moksha. The river is considered sacred and a living goddess, revered for its purifying properties.

www.bhargavas

Drinking the water of the Tunga River (a main tributary of the Tungabhadra River in Southern India) is associated with enlightenment, wisdom, and inner purity, all essential for the path to moksha. The Tunga is also considered a holy river, and its water is believed to have divine properties that foster spiritual advancement.

Together, these acts represent a dual path to spiritual liberation: purification of external and internal impurities through the sanctity of these revered natural elements.

Essentially, the saying highlights the unique and superior qualities attributed to each river in its respective domain: the Ganga for external purification (bathing) and the Tunga for internal purity (drinking). This wisdom underscores the local reverence for the Tunga river, elevating its sanctity to a level comparable with the universally sacred Ganga.

Nadee Taratamya Stothra...

ಹೀನೇಽನ್ಯೋಪಸಮೇತಾಭ್ಯಾಮೂನಾ ಚ ಸರಯೂ ತಥಾ |

ತುಂಗಭದ್ರಾ ಸಮಾ ತಸ್ಯಾಃ ಕಾಳಂದ್ಯೂನಾ ತತೋಧಮಾ ||

heene~nyonyasame taabhyaamoonaa cha ^sarayu^ tathaa|

^Tungabhadra^ samaa tasyaaha ^kalindyo^onaa tato~dhame||

[Meaning...Then comes Sarayu - Tungabhadra in gradation; next comes Kalindi (Yamuna)]

In Nadee Taratamya Stothra (Guru Sarvabhouma Sri Raghavendra Swamy virachita) holy TungaBhadra river has been quoted fairly higher in Taratamya after SAraswati & SArayu rivers.

ರಂಗೋತ್ತುಂಗತರಂಗಮಂಗಳಕರಶ್ರೀತುಂಗಭದ್ರಾತಟ

ಪ್ರತ್ಯಸ್ಥದ್ವಿಜಪುಂಗವಾಲಯಲಸನ್ ಮಂತ್ರಾಲಯಾಖ್ಯೇ ಪುರೇ |

www.bhargavasarma.blogspot.com

ನವ್ಯೇಂದ್ರೋಪಲನೀಲಭವ್ಯಕರಸದ್ಬೃಂದಾವನಾಂತರ್ಗತಃ

ಶ್ರೀಮತ್ಸದ್ಗುರುರಾಘವೇಂದ್ರಯತಿರಾಟ್ ಕುರ್ಯಾದ್ಧ್ರುವಂ ಮಂಗಲಂ ||

रंगोत्तुंगतरंगमंगळकरश्रीतुंगभद्रातट
प्रत्यस्थद्विजपुंगवालयलसन् मंत्रालयाख्ये पुरे |
नव्येंद्रोपलनीलभव्यकरसद्बृंदावनांतर्गतः
श्रीमत्सद्गुरुराघवेंद्रयतिराट् कुर्याद्ध्रुवं मंगलं ||

In the above sloka from Sri Raghavendra Mangalashtaka, Sri Appanacharyaru is extolling Mantralaya as a town located on the banks of sacred and auspicious river Tungabhadra which is a home for Brahminical activities where majestically and gloriously located like a fresh gem is the sacred Brundavana the abode of

RajaAdhiraja Guru SaArvabhouma Sri RaAgHavendra Swamy the king of ascetics, an epitome of auspicious attributes, may He bless us with prosperity which is firm and long lasting.

Sangameswara Kshetra (Kurnool Dt) also known as Nivrutti Sangama is one of the important pilgrimage mentioned by Saint Sri VaAdiraAjaru in his magnum opus "Theertha Prabandha" (in Poorva Prabandha). It is a sacred confluence of Seven holy rivers meeting viz. Krishna, Veni, BhavanaAshini, Tunga, Bhadra, Bheemarathi, Malaprabha.

Tungabhadra River is a major and sacred river in Southern India, significant both geographically and culturally. It is primarily known as the lifeblood of the historic Vijayanagara Empire and a major tributary of the Krishna River.

The ruins of Hampi, the capital city of the powerful Vijayanagara Empire and a UNESCO World Heritage site, are located on the southern banks of the river. The river and surrounding boulder-strewn landscape formed a natural northern defense for the ancient capital.

www.bhargavasarma.blogspot.com

TungaBhadra is standing as a tall witness to the glory, rise/fall of Vijayanagara empire, Sri Krishna DevaRaya, the glory of Sri VyasaRajaru, Sri GuruRaayaru, DasaSreshtaru Sri Purandara Dasaru etc.

Sringeri Sharadamba Temple and the Dakshinamnaya Sringeri Sharada Peetham, established by Adi Shankaracharya, are located on the banks of the Tunga river (before the confluence).

Geographical Details…

Origin: The Tungabhadra is formed by the confluence of two streams, the Tunga and the Bhadra, which originate in the eastern slopes of the Western Ghats (specifically at Gangamoola in the Chikmagalur district of Karnataka).

Confluence: The Tunga (approx. 147 km long) and Bhadra (approx. 178 km long) meet at Koodli, near Shimoga in Karnataka, to form the main Tungabhadra river.

Course: The river flows for about 531 kilometers (330 miles) through Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh before joining the Krishna River at Sangameshwaram in Andhra Pradesh.

Basin: Its total catchment area is over 69,000 sq. km, and its flow is mainly dependent on the southwest monsoon.

Major Tributaries: Key tributaries include the Varada, Hagari (Vedavathi), and Handri rivers.

www.bhargavasarma.blogspot.com

Tungabhadra Dam: A major multi-purpose dam, also known as Pampa Sagar, was constructed near Hospet in Karnataka in the mid-20th century.

The dam provides essential irrigation water to chronically drought-prone districts in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, earning the region the nickname "rice bowl of Karnataka".

The project also generates hydroelectric power, contributing to the region's industrial development.

TungaBhadra Pushkara

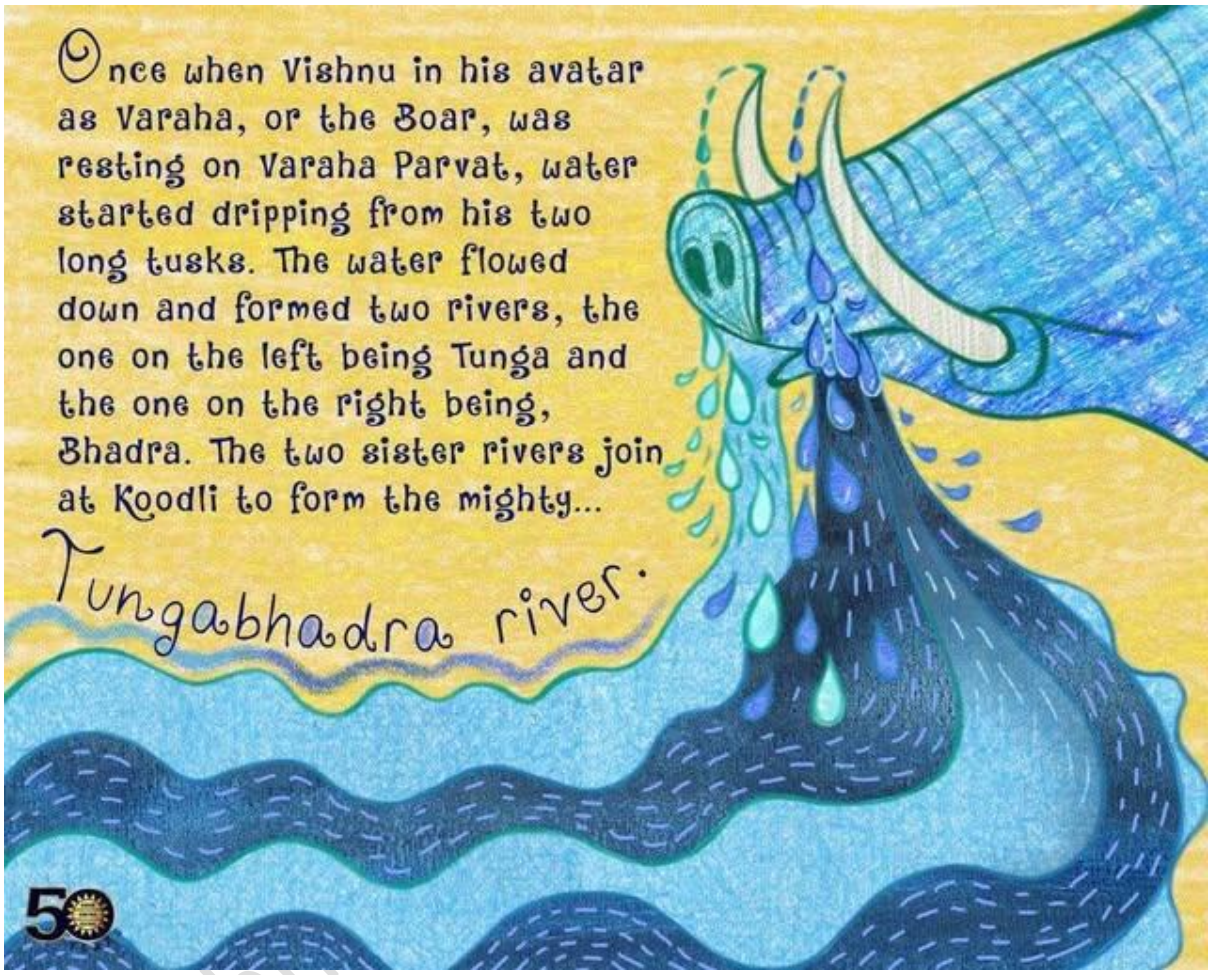
Transit of Jupiter (Guru) in Makara Raasi (Caporicorn) marks the beginning of TUNGABHADRA Pushkara.

Some of the important/famous Pilgrim centers on the banks of holy river TungaBhadra are... Mantralayam, Bichali, Panchamukhi, Chakra Theertha (Hampi); NavaBrundavana (Anegondi); Sangameswaram (Kurnool dt); Alampuram (Mahaboobnagar Dt); Sringeri (Tunga) etc.

www.bhargavasarma.blogspot.com

Other Kshetras on the Banks of River Tunga, River Bhadra and River Tunga Bhadra are Sringeri, Horanadu, Honnali, Theerthahalli, Harihara, Kenchanagudda, etc.

Presence of TungaBhadra river in ChaturYugas


Once when Vishnu in his avatar as Varaha, or the Boar, was resting on Varaha Parvat, water started dripping from his two long tusks. The water flowed down and formed two rivers, the one on the left being Tunga and the one on the right being, Bhadra. The two sister rivers join at Koodli to form the mighty...
Tungabhadra river.

Krutha Yuga

Tunga & Bhadra (TungaBhadra) rivers have originated from the Tusk of Lord Varaha (Sri Varaha Avathara);

Mantralayam the abode of Sri GuruRaayaru > Moola Brundavana which was YagnaKunda where Prahlada Rayaru performed Yagna (Sri Nrusimha Avathara);

Temple of Manchalamma at Mantralayam - Kuladevata of Prahlada Rayaru;

Treta Yuga:

Anjanaadri parvatha (birth place of Lord Hanuman) on the banks of TungaBhadra at Chakratheertha (Hampi);

Erstwhile legendary Kishkindha Nagara of the epic Ramayana period ruled by the great Vanara King Vaali and later by his brother Sugreeva.

Lord Hanuman associated with Vanara King Sugreeva dwelled at this place and it is believed that Lord Sri Rama had met Sri Hanuman for the first time in this region. Lord Sri Rama and his brother Sri Lakshmana during the course of their search for Goddess Sita Devi stayed in this region for some time.

Some of the legendary names of Ramayana period that we hear like, Maalyavantha Parvatha, Rishyamooka Parvatha are believed to be in this region. Sacred theerthas like Chakra Theertha, Pampa Sarovara are located in this belt apart from the sacred river Tungabhadra. During the age of Ramayana, Tungabhadra was known as Pampa river.

Sri Seetha Laxmana sametha Sri Kodanda Rama temple installed by Vanara King Sugreeva on the banks of TungaBhadra river at Chakratheertha (Hampi);

Lord Sri Raamachandra sojourn at Madhavaram (near Mantralayam) during his Vanavaasa; the stone on which Lord Sri Raama rested became the fort of Sri GuruRaayara Moola Brundavana on the banks of TungaBhadra;

Dwapara Yuga;

Arjuna fought with King Anusalva at the spot of current Mantralayam (on the banks of TungaBhadra) during the course of Rajasuya Yaaga;

Sangameswaram (Nivrutti Sangama) the spot where TungaBhadra meets Krishna river, where DharmaRaja (Yudhhishtira) did pratishta of Shiva Linga which became a famous Shiva Kshethra called Sangameswaram;

www.bhargavasarma.blogspot.com

Kali Yuga:

Nava-Brundavana a small island in the Tungabhadra River is situated near Anegondi in Gangavathi Taluk of Koppal district in Karnataka state. This is an abode chosen by nine eminent Saints (Yatis) of Aacharya Sri Madhva's heritage for their mortal remnants to be laid to rest.

These nine Brundavanas are standing as a testimonial to the glory and significance of Madhva philosophy and culture. Amply sanctified with the presence of Moola Brundavanas of nine eminent Saints, Nava Brundavana has become one of the revered pilgrim centers in general and for the Madhva fraternity in particular.

Sri Narahari Theertharu (direct disciple of Sri Madhvacharyaru) Moola Brundavana is on the banks of TungaBhadra at Chakratheertha (Hampi);

Yanthroddharaka Hanuman installed by Sri VyasaRajaru on the banks of TungaBhadra at Chakratheertha (Hampi);

Mantralayam the abode of GuruSaarvabhouma Sri Raghavendra Swamy on the banks of TungaBhadra;

Sanctified with the memories of Sri GuruRayaru's stay at Bichhali (near Mantralayam), his association with Sri Appanacharya the beloved disciple and an ardent devotee of Sri Raghavendra Swamy, presence of Ekashila Brundavana is on the banks of TungaBhadra river.

Panchamukhi (near Mantralayam) on the banks of river TungaBhadra where Sri GuruRaayaru did penance and had darshan of Panchamkha Hanuman;

Temple of Lord Hanuman along with Lord Venkateswara installed by Sri Narahari Theertharu at Kurnool which is now famously called as Peta Aanjaneya Swamy temple on the banks of TungaBhadra;

www.bhargavasarma.blogspot.com

Temple of BalaAnjaneya Swamy installed by Sri VyasaRajaru at Potter's street, Kurnool on the banks of TungaBhadra river;

Temple of Sri LakshmiNarasimha + Lord Hanuman on the banks of TungaBhadra river at Kurnool (Fort area) installed by Sri Bhuvanendra Theertharu (Mantralaya Matha parampara);

Sri Sathyanidhi Theerthara Moola Brundavana which was originally at Sangameswaram was shifted to Uttaradi Mutt at Kurnool on the banks of TungaBhadra.

Alampur (near Kurnool) famously called as Dakshina Kaasi the meeting point for Krishna and TungaBhadra rivers is the seat of one of Ashtadasa Shakti Peetas called as Jogulamba and also a Shiva kshethra known as Nava Bramha kshethra dedicated to Lord Shiva with the main temple called as Bramheswara said to have been installed by Lord Bramha is on the banks of the meeting point of two holy rivers Krishna and TungaBhadra.

All these speaks volumes about the glory and historicity of the holy river TungaBhadra.

Sri VijayaDasara Rachana...

(Composition on Tungabhadra)

ನಮೋ ನಮೋ ಜಯ ತುಂಗಭದ್ರೆ

ನಮಿತರನು ಪಾಲಿಸುವ ಸದ್ಗುಣ ಸಮುದ್ರೆ ||ಪ||

ವೈರಾಚ ನಗರಿಯಲಿ ವಿಧಾರುಣಿಯ ರೋಚಕನು

ಮೀರಿ ದೇವಾದಿಗಳಿಗಂಜದಿರಲು

ಘೋರ ರೂಪವ ತಾಳಿ ಅವನ ಕೊಲ್ಲಲು ಹರಿಯ

ಮೋರೆ ಕರಿಬೆವರಿಡಲು ಅತಿ ಹರುಷದಿಂದ ||1||

ರೂಢಿಯೊಳಗೆಲ್ಲ ಸಮಸ್ತ ನದಿ ಉದಕಗಳು

ನೋಡಿದರು ರುಚಿಕರವಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದೂ

www.bhargavasarma.blogspot.com

ದಾಡಿಯಲಿ ಧರಿಸಿದನು ಸುರರು ಕೊಂಡಾಡುತಿರೆ

ಈಡ್ಯಾರು ನಿನ್ನ ಮಹಿಮೆಗೆ ವರಹತನಯೇ ||2||

ಸಲಿಲವೇ ಹರಿಯಾದ ಶಿವ ನಿನಗೆ ಶಿಲೆಯಾದ

ಬಲು ಮುನಿಗಳು ಮಳಲವಳಗಾದರೂ

ಜಲಜ ಸಂಭವನು ತೃಣನಾದ ಬಳಿಕ ವಿಷ್ಣು

ಕೆಲವುಕಾಲ ನಿನ್ನೊಳಗೆ ನಿಲಿಸಿದನು ತುಂಗೆ ಗಂಗೆ ||3||

ವೇದಾದ್ರಿಯಲಿ ಜನಿಸಿ ನರಸಿಂಹ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರದಲಿ

ಭೇದವಿಲ್ಲದಲೆ ಸಂಗಮವು ಎನಿಸೀ

ಆದರದಿಂದ ಹರಹರ ಪೊಂಪ ಬಲಗೊಂಡು

ಮೊದಲು ಶ್ರೀ ಕೃಷ್ಣ ಬೆರದೆ ಕೂಡಲಿಯೊಳು || 4||

ತುಂಗೆ ತುಂಗೆ ಎಂದು ಸ್ಮರಿಸುವಾ ಜನರಿಗು

ತ್ತಂಗ ಗತಿಯಾಗುವುದು ಪಾಪವಳಿದು

ಮಂಗಳ ಮೂರುತಿ ವಿಜಯವಿಠ್ಠಲನ ಚರಣಂಗಳಲಿ ಇದ್ದವರ ಸತತ ಪೊರೆವುದು ದೇವಿ ||5||

ರಚನೆ :ಶ್ರೀ ವಿಜಯದಾಸರು

ನಮೊ ನಮೊ ಜಯ ತ್ತುಂಗಭದ್ರೆ
ನಮಿತರನ್ನು ಪಾಲಿಸುವ ಸದ್ಗುಣ ಸಮುದ್ರೆ ||ಪ||

ವೈರಾಚ ನಗರಿಯಲಿ ವಿಧಾರುಣಿಯ ರೋಚಕನ್ನು
ಮೀರಿ ದೇವಾದಿಗಳಿಗಂಜದಿರಲ್ಲು
ಘೋರ ರೂಪವ ತಾಳಿ ಅವನ ಕೊಲ್ಲಲ್ಲು ಹರಿಯ
ಮೊರೆ ಕರಿಬೆವರಿಡಲ್ಲು ಅತಿ ಹರುಷದಿಂದ ||1||

ರೂಢಿಯೊಳಗೆಲ್ಲ ಸಮಸ್ತ ನದಿ ಉದಕಗಳ್ತು
ನೋಡಿದರು ರುಚಿಕರವಿಲ್ಲವೆಂದ್ಹೂ
ದಾಡಿಯಲಿ ಧರಿಸಿದನ್ನು ಸುರರು ಕೊಂಡಾಡುತಿರೆ
ಈಡ್ಯಾರು ನಿನ್ನ ಮಹಿಮೆಗೆ ವರಹತನಯೆ ||2||

www.bhargavasarma.blogspot.com

सलिलवे हरियाद शिव निनगॆ शिलेयाद
बलु मुनिगळु मळलवळगादरू
जलज संभवनु तृणनाद बळिक विष्णु
केलवुकाल निन्नॊळगॆ निलिसिदनु तुंगॆ गंगॆ ||3||

वेदाद्रियलि जनिसि नरसिंह क्षेत्रदलि
भेदविल्लदले संगमवु ऐनिसी
आदरदिंद हरहर पोंप बलगोंडु
मोदलु श्री कृष्ण बेरदे कूडलियोळु || 4||

तुंगॆ तुंगॆ ऐंदु स्मरिसुवा जनरिगु
त्तंग गतियागुवुदु पापवळिदु
मंगळ मूरुति विजयविठ्ठलन चरणंगळलि इद्दवर सतत पोरेवुदु देवि ||5||

रचने :श्री विजयदासरु

నమో నమో జయ తుంగభద్రె

నమితరను పాలిసువ సద్గుణ సముద్రె ||ప||

పైరాచ నగరియలి విధారుణియ రోచకను

మీరి దేవాదిగళిగంజదిరలు

ఘోర రూపవ తాళి అవన కొల్లలు హరియ

మోరె కరిబెవరిడలు అతి హరుషదింద ||1||

రూఢియొళగెల్ల సమస్త నది ఉదకగళు

నోడిదరు రుచికరవిల్లవెందూ

దాడియలి ధరిసిదను సురరు కొండాడుతిరె

ఈడ్యారు నిన్న మహిమెగె వరహతనయే ||2||

సలిలవే హరియాద శివ నినగె శిలెయాద

www.bhargavasarma.blogspot.com

బలు మునిగళు మళలవళగాదరూ

జలజ సంభవను తృణనాద బళిక విష్ణు

కెలవుకాల నిన్నొళగె నిలిసిదను తుంగె గంగె ||3||

వేదాద్రియలి జనిసి నరసింహ క్షేత్రదలి

భేదవిల్లదలె సంగమవు ఎనిసీ

ఆదరదింద హరహర పొంప బలగొండు

మొదలు శ్రీ కృష్ణ బెరదె కూడలియొళు || 4||

తుంగె తుంగె ఎందు స్మరిసువా జనరిగు

త్తంగ గతియాగువుదు పాపవళిదు

మంగళ మూరుతి విజయవిఠలన చరణంగళలి ఇద్దవర సతత పొరెవుదు దేవి ||5||

రచనె :శ్రీ విజయదాసరు

namo namo jaya tuṃgabhadre
namitaranu pālisuva sadguṇa samudre ||pa||

vairāca nagariyali vidhāruṇiya rocakanu
mīri devādigaḷigaṃjadiralu
ghora rūpava tāḷi avana kollalu hariya
more karibevariḍalu ati haruṣadiṃda ||1||

rūḍhiyoḷagella samasta nadi udakagaḷu
noḍidaru rucikaravillaveṃdū
dāḍiyali dharisidanu suraru koṃḍāḍutire
īḍyāru ninna mahimege varahatanaye ||2||

salilave hariyāda śiva ninage śileyāda
balu munigaḷu maḷalavaḷagādarū
jalaja saṃbhavanu tṛṇanāda baḷika viṣṇu

www.bhargavasarma.blogspot.com

kelavukāla ninnoḷage nilisidanu tuṃge gaṃge ||3||

vedādriyali janisi narasiṃha kṣetradali
bhedavilladale saṃgamavu enisī
ādaradiṃda harahara poṃpa balagoṃḍu
modalu śrī kṛṣṇa berade kūḍaliyoḷu || 4||

tuṃge tuṃge eṃdu smarisuvā janarigu
ttaṃga gatiyāguvudu pāpavaḷidu
maṃgaḷa mūruti vijayaviṭhṭhalana caraṇaṃgaḷali iddavara satata
porevudu devi ||5||

racane :śrī vijayadāsaru

Sri Vijayadasaru's composition where he extolls Tungabhadra, river abhimani devata. He writes "ತುಂಗೆ ಎಂದು ಸ್ಮರಿಸುವಾ ಜನರಿಗೆ ವುತ್ತಂಗ ಗತಿಯಾಗುವುದು..." - such is her greatness that if one were to recall/reminiscence her name with devotion even for a moment, She will elevate you to the pinnacle.

Sri KrushnaArpanamAstu
Naham karta harih karta
Hari Sarvottama – Vaayu Jeevottama
Sri GuruRaajo Vijayate

www.bhargavasarma.blogspot.com

(Ekashila Brundavana of Sri Raghavendra Swamy on the banks of river TungaBhadra at Bichhali near Mantralayam)

www.bhargavasarma.blogspot.com